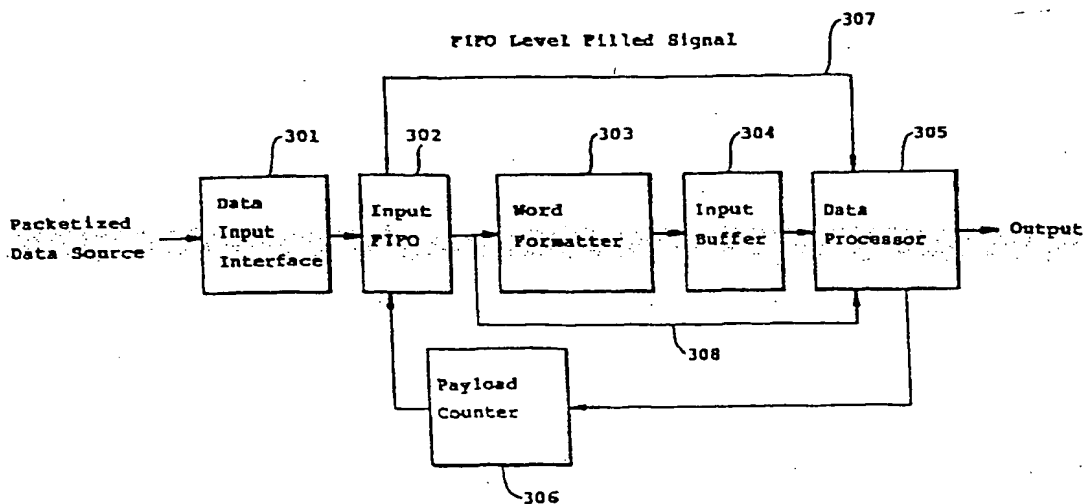




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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DEPACKETIZING AND ALIGNING PACKETIZED INPUT DATA



(57) Abstract

Apparatus for depacketizing and aligning packetized input data. Data processing means (305) receives the input data via an input memory (301) and detects, identifies and determines payload size of a data packet of the input data. The data processing means (305) generates a payload size signal indicative of the size of the payload. A word formatter (303) receives units of the payload from the input memory (301) and gathers and aligns these to form data words. A payload counter (306) controls flow of input data from the input memory (301) to the word formatter (303) in accordance with the payload size signal. An input buffer (304) receives the data words from the word formatter (303), stores these and transfers them to the data processing means (305) for effecting data processing.